

REMARKS

Favorable reconsideration of this application is respectfully requested.

Claims 1-34 are pending in this application. Claims 1-22 and 28-34 are allowed.

Claims 23-27 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

Initially, applicants gratefully acknowledge the early indication of the allowable subject matter in each of claims 1-22 and 28-34.

Addressing now the rejection of claims 23-37 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, those claims are herein amended to address that rejection.

First, applicants note that claims no longer recite any “means plus function” terminology. Applicants further submit the features recited in the claims are supported by the original disclosure.

For example with respect to claim 23, Figure 2 in the specification shows an access sequence extracting unit 13, a keyword extracting unit 14, and a satisfactory degree calculation unit 15. Applicants submit the disclosures thereto set forth in the claimed operations to one of ordinary skill in the art.

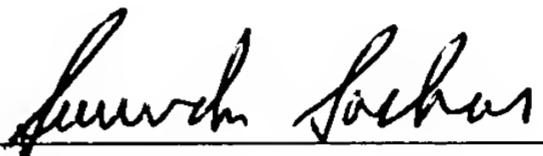
Further, the now recited need value calculation unit of claim 24 is believed to be clear from Figure 18, element 21. The features of claim 25 are also clarified and are believed to be clear from the original disclosure, see for example Figure 3 and see also the specification at page 33, line 24 to page 34, line 2 for the keyword extracting. With respect to independent claim 26 as currently amended, applicants also draw attention to the specification at page 57, line 10 to page 60, line 6 for the keyword extracting. With respect to amended independent claim 27 applicants draw attention to the specification for example at Figure 66.

In view of the presently submitted claim amendments and comments, applicants submit claims 23-27 as currently written are proper under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph.

As no other issues are pending in this application, it is respectfully submitted this application is in condition for allowance, and it is hereby respectfully requested that this case be passed to issue.

Respectfully submitted,

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